

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

**January 16, 2018**

*The City Council also sits as the Lemon Grove Housing Authority, Lemon Grove Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and Lemon Grove Successor Agency*

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**Call to Order**

City Councilmembers present: Mayor Racquel Vasquez, Mayor Pro Tem Jerry Jones, Councilmember David Arambula, Councilmember Jennifer Mendoza, and Councilmember Matt Mendoza.

City Councilmembers absent: None.

City Staff present: City Manager, Lydia Romero; Sheriff's Department Lieutenant, Scott Amos; Development Services Director, David De Vries; City Clerk, Susan Garcia; Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director, Mike James; City Attorney, James Lough; and Fire Chief, Colin Stowell.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lydia Romero.

**Presentation**

Lemon Grove History Minute was presented that featured Dr. Kimberly Berman, Superintendent of the Lemon Grove School District.

**Public Comment**

John L. Wood commented on traffic issues in Lemon Grove.

Jim Ellis commented on issues with the City's animal control service, the City's use of Round-up products in parks, and panhandling.

Mike Richards expressed concern with the realignment project and traffic flow.

Andrea Nassar commented on speeding vehicles on Lemon Grove Avenue and asked the City Council to implement a solution to decrease speeding.

Brenda Hammond commented on health issues and the benefits of physical therapy.

Anita Lopez, Lemon Grove Heal Zone, commented on upcoming park improvement projects.

Mary Ann Soto commented on a dog attack and issues with the City's animal control service.

Adonis Mc Kenzie reported that his dog was attacked and commented on issues with the City's animal control service.

Councilmember J. Mendoza requested that the City Council conduct a discussion regarding the City's animal control service, specifically to resolve customer service issues and possible alternatives to the contract with Chula Vista for animal control service.

Lydia Romero answered that possible alternatives to the Chula Vista Animal Control contract could be brought back in April during the budget presentation. She will make arraignments for a customer service discussion.

## **1. Consent Calendar**

### **A. Approval of City Council Minutes**

October 17, 2017 Regular Meeting

November 21, 2017 Regular Meeting

December 5, 2017 Regular Meeting

December 19, 2017 Regular Meeting

### **B. Ratification of Payment Demands**

### **C. Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda**

### **D. Denial of Claim**

### **E. Approve an Agreement with Dexter Wilson Engineering, Inc. to Conduct an Evaluation of the Lemon Grove Sanitation District's Permanent Meter Locations and Interconnections**

### **F. 2018 Minimum Wage Increase**

### **G. Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule**

**Action: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:**

**Ayes: Vasquez, J. Mendoza, Arambula, Jones, M. Mendoza**

**Resolution No. 2018 – 3552:** Resolution of the Lemon Grove City Council Approving the State Minimum Wage Increases for 2018

**Resolution No. 2018 - 292:** Resolution of the District Board of the Lemon Grove Sanitation District Approving an Agreement with Dexter Wilson Engineering, Incorporated to Conduct an Evaluation of the Lemon Grove Sanitation District's Permanent Meter Locations and Interconnection

## **2. Adopt a Park Program**

Mike James explained that in 2017, the City Council expressed interest in learning more about implementing, an Adopt-A-Park program in the City.

Staff conducted research in the County, as well as outside of the County. This type of program could assist a City staff by having an outside non-political organization, corporation, or group clean a City park. Community involvement could possibly enhance City's resources and provide volunteering opportunities to multiple groups that may not otherwise exist. The group will agree to pick up litter in a park for a set period of time and the City may also provide equipment and supplies to assist the group.

Maintaining the program will require minimal staff involvement after the initial startup process. The materials and supplies to clean the parks will likely not change from what is currently being performed by City staff. The biggest challenge that staff envisions to maintaining the program is keeping the groups actively involved and to ensure that they keep up with their obligation during the entire term of the program.

Mr. James stated that he will bring this matter back to the City Council during the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 year budget discussions.

Councilmember J. Mendoza requested that staff identify groups and parks that might be potential volunteer groups and park projects.

Mike James stated that the primary parks are Berry Street and Lemon Grove.

Councilmember Arambula agreed with Councilmember J. Mendoza's recommendation, to identify groups, when this comes back for City Council discussion.

#### Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

### **3. Ordinance Adding Chapter 2.36 (Planning Commission) to the Lemon Grove Municipal Code**

James Lough provided an overview of the ordinance adding Chapter 2.36 Planning Commission to the Lemon Grove Municipal Code.

Mayor Vasquez explained that the recent City Council action was to reinstate the Planning Commission with no changes. This staff report proposes changes to the length of term from three to four-years and no financial compensation although the original goal was to reinstate as it was previously.

Councilmember J. Mendoza noted that the previous ordinance, was not included in the staff report and she believes it would be helpful to see the original Planning Commission ordinance, to compare the old to the proposed ordinance.

James Lough asked what changes Councilmember J. Mendoza was referring to in the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember J. Mendoza answered the term length, compensation and travel / training expense budget.

James Lough explained that a four-year term length would assist in appointments and the term to commence on July 1, instead of October would also be beneficial.

Councilmember J. Mendoza agreed with the term length to four-years along with the term, to commence on July 1, with no changes to powers and authority.

James Lough explained that under powers and authority, he had an issue with business license reviews under the Planning Commission. Also, in the proposed ordinance, he included decorum during the meetings and an absence policy. He will bring back both the proposed ordinance and the previous ordinance, for City Council discussion.

Mayor Vasquez asked when this item will come back.

James Lough answered at the February 20, 2018, City Council meeting.

Mayor Vasquez asked that the February 20<sup>th</sup> report, include a timeline to resolve, all of the technicalities difficulties, along with details to begin the interview process.

**City Council Oral Comments and Reports on Meetings Attended at the Expense of the City. (GC 53232.3 (d))**

Councilmember J. Mendoza attended Mexican American Business Professionals Holiday event, Eagle Scout Award, SANDAG Transportation Committee meeting, San Diego Mayor Faulconer's State of the City Address, the United African American Ministers Clergy Breakfast, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, where Mayor Vasquez received the George Stevens Trail Blazer Award.

Councilmember M. Mendoza had no reports this evening.

Councilmember Arambula attended Heartland Fire Training Facilities JPA and MTS meetings.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones had no reports this evening.

Mayor Vasquez attended a SANDAG Board of Directors meeting where there was discussion to receive community input for the next Executive Director appointment. She also attended the USS Midway Museum and a YMCA events, to honor Dr. Martin Luther King. She reported on the United African American Ministers Clergy Breakfast that honored Dr. Martin Luther King, where she received the George Stevens Trail Blazer Award.

James Lough noted that the closed session description should include D 2.

**Closed Session**

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph Government Code Section 54956.9:  
One case

Closed Session Report: No reportable action was taken.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.